

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

TOWN OF LINCOLN

VILLAGE OF ALBION

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ALBION FIRE DISTRICT

OCTOBER 8, 2013

7:00 P.M.

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

(LIBRARY)

135 OLD RIVER ROAD

LINCOLN, RHODE ISLAND

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

MICHAEL ALLEN, CHAIRMAN

MICHAEL NAPOLITANO, VICE CHAIRMAN

SHARON REMILLARD, COMMISSIONER

ANTHONY LEONE, COMMISSIONER

DANIEL ADAMSKI, COMMISSIONER

ALSO PRESENT:

CHIEF RICHARD ANDREWS

TREASURER RAYMOND NEVES

TAX COLLECTOR DAVID ALMONTE (ABSENT)

MODERATOR RENE REMILLARD

CLERK LOIS MOORE

ATTORNEY LOUIS DESIMONE

ACCOUNTANT ROBERT CIVETTI

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1 **THE MODERATOR:** I am formally going to call the
2 meeting to order. I want to thank each and every one of
3 you for showing up and coming and waiting patiently for
4 what, about, 18 minutes. That's not too bad. We're going
5 to get going here. Before we do that, I want to ask you
6 all to stand and look forward for the Pledge of
7 Allegiance.

8 **[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]**

9 **THE MODERATOR:** Roll call. Mike Allen. Mike
10 Napolitano.

11 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** Here.

12 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO:** Here.

13 THE MODERATOR: Commissioner Leone?

14 COMMISSIONER LEONE: Here.

15 THE MODERATOR: Commissioner Remillard, I

16 remembered you this year.

17 COMMISSIONER REMILLARD: Thank you.

18 THE MODERATOR: Commissioner Adamski. Approval

19 of the Minutes of the September 10th and September 24,

20 2013 meeting.

21 TREASURER NEVES: So moved.

22 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Second.

23 THE MODERATOR: Hearing no objection, approved.

24 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Since there is no

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1 discussion, all those in favor of approving the Minuets of
2 the meeting from September 10th?

3 [VOTE TAKEN]

4 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: The ayes have it. Motion
5 carries.

6 THE MODERATOR: Review of monthly bills and
7 approval of same.

8 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Does anybody have any
9 questions of the bills for the month? I believe everybody
10 signed off on it. Just to let you know, we all sign off
11 on the bills. Everybody has to look at them before or we

12 won't recognize them at the meeting. So we did our
13 homework. Seeing no questions, all that, I'll entertain a
14 motion to accept the bills and approval of the same.

15 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: I'll make a motion.

16 COMMISSIONER LEONE: Second.

17 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Motion made by
18 Commissioner Napolitano. Second by Commissioner Leone.
19 All those in favor?

20 [VOTE TAKEN]

21 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: The ayes have it.

22 Approved.

23 THE MODERATOR: Motion to waive the reading of
24 the Minutes of the previous meeting.

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1 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: Motion to waive the
2 reading of the previous minutes.

3 THE MODERATOR: Do I have a second?

4 COMMISSIONER ADAMSKI: Second.

5 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Motion made by
6 Commissioner Napolitano and seconded by Commissioner
7 Adamski. All those in favor?

8 [VOTE TAKEN]

9 THE MODERATOR: Any discussion? Seeing none,
10 all those in favor foregoing the meeting of the Minutes.

11 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Signify by saying aye.**

12 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

13 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN: The ayes have it.**

14 **THE MODERATOR: Motion carried. Officer's**

15 **Annual Reports. May we have the Fire Chief's report?**

16 **Chief Andrews, if you want to come up here. Oh, I forgot**

17 **to just mention one thing. I'm not tight on rules.**

18 **Anyone who wants to speak, the only thing I ask is you go**

19 **through me and the Chair, and not address an individual.**

20 **If you want to speak to an individual, I'll relay that to**

21 **that person. That goes for the Commissioners as well as**

22 **anybody out there. I'm not going to shut off phones, it**

23 **doesn't work. If you get a call, I ask you to step out**

24 and take that call; otherwise, I know better than try to

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1 enforce that. It's impossible.

2 CHIEF ANDREWS: Thank you. Chief's Report

3 October 8, 2013. First, I'd like to welcome everyone to

4 the 2013 financial meeting for the Albion Fire District.

5 I'd like to thank the firefighters for their

6 professionalism and unselfish dedication to the Albion

7 Fire District. If it were not for the firefighters'

8 dedication, the Albion Fire Department could not function

9 as efficiently as it does. I would like to thank the

10 citizens of the Albion Fire District for their support by
11 supplying us with the equipment needed to carry out our
12 mission.

13 Fire prevention: Captain Peter Adam, Chris Tardie,
14 numerous fire inspections were conducted for the year
15 2013. Plan and Review of new buildings as well as
16 additions to existing buildings were reviewed.
17 Inspections consisted of annual visits to the businesses
18 buildings being renovated, new buildings and complaints
19 received of possible fire code violation. These
20 inspections comply with the Rhode Island State Fire Code.
21 Fire prevention classes were held throughout the year at
22 various businesses located in the Albion Fire District.

23 **Fire Safety programs were held at Lincoln High School,**
24 **Amica Insurance, Cathedral Corporation, and Lincoln Mall**

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1 **and Autocrat Coffee.**

2 **Under training, Deputy Chief Robert Valentine: Weekly**
3 **training sessions are held at the fire station on various**
4 **aspects of firefighting, extrication and emergency medical**
5 **training. This department averages 20 firefighters per**
6 **training session. Total training hours, 1,024. The**
7 **Officer assigned to his daily shift also trains with**
8 **part-time firefighters assigned to that shift. Shift**

9 training hours amounted to 191.5. We received one grant
10 in the amount of \$1,800, and this was used for the
11 Driver/Operator Aerial Ladder class. Other training that
12 the firefighters have taken over the past year includes
13 Driver Training, EMT school and Fire Academy run courses,
14 total training hours 1,527.5. Total training hours for
15 the year, total 2,743.

16 Currently this department has five full-time career
17 firefighters, 15 part-time firefighters and six call
18 fires.

19 The Department level training, a hundred percent of
20 the Department is trained in the National Incident
21 Assistance Management System. 96 percent of the

22 department is trained to N.F.P.A. 1001 Level 1 and 2. The
23 three firefighters are currently attending a class and one
24 fire firefighter is scheduled to start class in January,

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1 2014. This will bring the department to a hundred percent
2 trained. That's all the basic firefighting class.

3 96 percent of the Department is trained to Hazardous
4 Materials level, operations level. When level 2 is
5 completed, the department will be at 100 percent.

6 90 percent of the department has N.F.P.A 1002 Apparatus
7 driver/operator certification. Five firefighters are

8 currently attending a new class to bring the Department to
9 a hundred percent of certification. The Department has 11
10 Emergency Medical Technicians and the Department has two
11 Emergency Medical Technicians in cardiac. And the
12 Department has four N.F.P.A. Fire Instructors. 12
13 firefighters were certified in rescue this year.

14 2012 incidents in the Albion district, we had 800,
15 mutual aid, we did 186 total incidents of 986. Total fire
16 loss, structures, were \$75,000 for the year.

17 Under consolidation: The Fire Chiefs and
18 Commissioners have met periodically with the Town
19 Administrator Almond, and the Public Safety Committee for
20 the town to discuss the possibility of the fire districts

21 consolidating. Areas discussed were budgets, tax rates
22 and what improvements can be made to the service that the
23 fire districts provide. Albion and Saylesville Fire
24 Districts are the only districts that sent letters to the

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1 town with intent to proceed with talks to consolidate if
2 any other districts are interested. The town is looking
3 into commissioning a study from an outside agency to see
4 what a town like Lincoln needs for fire protections now
5 and in the future. It will be meeting again in the
6 future.

7 Just to go over some of the things in the budget, I
8 have carefully prepared the budget, proposed budget,
9 taking into consideration the safety of the citizens of
10 Albion, the safety of the firefighters and the economic
11 times. This proposal is a budget to run a basic fire
12 department with no frills.

13 For 2013 and 14 as presented shows a 3 percent
14 increase. The increase in the budget this year is the
15 area of personnel. This is the first significant increase
16 in five years. Prior years the increase to the budget
17 have been minimal due to the fact that I used surplus
18 monies to offset large increases to the budget. 2008 we
19 increased 1.5; 2009 was 2.4; 2010 was 1.6 percent; 2011

20 was .6 percent, and 2012 was 1.9 percent. This year we
21 need to raise the tax rate to meet the levy. If we
22 continue using surplus the spread between revenues and
23 expenditures will become too large. We are proposing a
24 five cent increase for the Residential which would be a

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1 \$1.50 and commercial rate would be \$1.75. Last year there
2 was no tax increase in residential taxes. The average
3 valuation of a home in Albion is 300,000. This equates to
4 a tax increase of approximately \$15 for the year.
5 Revaluation was completed this year. The tax rate to meet

6 last year's budget would be Residential \$1.45 and
7 Commercial \$1.70. This would bring in the same amount of
8 money needed to meet last year's levy. This year
9 commissioners are proposing a semi-annual tax payment to
10 help the burden of one-time payment to be so close to the
11 holidays.

12 Full-time salary line. Pay raises for the coming
13 year are 2.5 percent contractual. Also included in this
14 line item is longevity which has increased due to the
15 years of service by the firefighters. Two lieutenants
16 have received certification above their job descriptions.
17 One is certified for apparatus maintenance in minor
18 repairs saving the department financially. Another

19 lieutenant is certified to do fire inspections and also is
20 the EMS officer overseeing the license of the EMTs and
21 equipment on the apparatus. Usually these positions are
22 paid at a pay rate above their regular grade. They have
23 agreed to stipends, \$1,250 each, saving the district
24 financially.

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1 Total increase for the salary line item is
2 4.4 percent. If the part-time salary line item increases
3 for this line item is to maintain adequate personnel for
4 both the engine and ladder truck for responses in the

5 Albion Fire District. We have no more volunteers. Times
6 have changed: Family commitments, training requirements,
7 and time commitments. All have had impact on trying to
8 get volunteers. This is why this department has been
9 hiring part-time firefighters to supplement the career
10 firefighters and to add on duty hours for 24-hour
11 coverage. Using part-time firefighters has been working
12 well, and we will continue to do this. We do have an
13 adequate part-time force. We have had to operate for the
14 past year and a half with two firefighters responding on
15 the engine and with one firefighter responding on the
16 ladder truck in the Albion District. The population of
17 the Albion Fire District is 4,000 people. During business

18 hours the population grows to about 8,000. With
19 65 percent of our incidents occurring during business
20 hours, I felt it necessary to add these extra part-time
21 hours during that busiest time which is during the day.
22 It all comes down to the safety of the citizens and the
23 firefighters. The increase will cover three days a week
24 this year and I would like to add the remaining two days

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1 to next year's budget.

2 Station renovations: We need to put in permanent
3 sleeping quarters. The present area used now for sleeping

4 was taken from the dayroom used by the firefighters. This
5 was a temporary solution because we did not have the funds
6 available two years ago for this project. This room does
7 not meet the NFPA Life Safety Code 101, which is the state
8 fire code and NFPA 1500 Firefighter Health and Safety, and
9 NFPA 1581 Fire Department Facilities which has been
10 adopted by the State of Rhode Island. Under the fire
11 code, a sleeping area must exit directly to the outside
12 and not exit through a kitchen. This room was used
13 because we need to have firefighters in the station for
14 overnight coverage. The current sleeping area will become
15 a training room. This project has taken into
16 consideration the current needs as well as future needs of

17 this department. All funds for this project will be taken
18 from surplus funds.

19 Roof Replacement: The roof over the original station
20 needs to have the shingles replaced. The roof is only 12
21 years old. The shingles have started to curl up. I'm not
22 sure why this has happened. It could have been the
23 quality of the shingle or the problem with the
24 ventilation. If the roof is not replaced now, I'm afraid

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1 leaks will start to occur. The roof will be stripped and
2 a new ridge vent installed to increase the air flow in the

3 attic. The funds for this project will come from surplus.

4 Resolution five sets of turnout gear: This

5 Resolution is to buy five sets of turnout gear from

6 surplus. Turnout gear has a life expectancy of ten years.

7 We need to start replacing the gear this coming year. I

8 have applied for a \$25,000 grant which is in another

9 Resolution. The department has to match the 5,000. If we

10 get the grant I can replace the remaining turnout gear all

11 at the same time.

12 Respectfully submitted.

13 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Thank you very much.

14 THE MODERATOR: Questions?

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Sorry. I don't know if

16 you want to address it as a line item or read a speech,
17 which way do you want to do this? I have a question about
18 the salaries for part-time. Do you want to address it?
19 Was the line items through?

20 **THE MODERATOR:** Let's do it line items. Why
21 don't we do that. We'll put a hold on that.

22 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** Any questions from the
23 Board concerning the Chief's Report?

24 **[NO RESPONSE],**

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1 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** Hearing none, I'll

2 entertain a motion to accept the Chief's Report.

3 **COMMISSIONER LEONE:** I make a motion.

4 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** Motion has been made by
5 Commissioner Leone. Please state your name and your
6 address for the lady.

7 **MR. SANTINELLO:** Tom Santinello, 16 Spring
8 Green Road, Lincoln, Rhode Island, Albion. The roofing
9 shingles usually have a 15 to a 25-year warranty.

10 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** More than that. The warranty,
11 I don't know.

12 **MR. SANTINELLO:** I know for a fact, so can
13 we --

14 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** Shingles, not the labor or the

15 work.

16 MR. SANTINELLO: They can reimburse you some of
17 the labor if the shingles are bad.

18 CHIEF ANDREWS: You have 15-year shingles, 12
19 already spent.

20 MR. SANTINELLO: How many square feet is it?

21 CHIEF ANDREWS: I forget.

22 MR. SANTINELLO: That's saying the amount, if
23 they cover that under warranty.

24 CHIEF ANDREWS: They'll prorate the shingles

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1 for 12 years.

2 **ATTORNEY DeSIMONE:** So you get three years. It
3 could be a 25 year.

4 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** I have already checked with the
5 contractors for that.

6 **MR. SANTINELLO:** Okay.

7 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** It's not as easy as it sounds.

8 **THE MODERATOR:** Any other questions at this
9 time of the Chief's Report?

10 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** Motion made by
11 Commissioner Leone, second by Commissioner Remillard to
12 accept. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

13 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

14 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** The ayes have it. The
15 motion carries. Thank you, Chief.

16 **THE MODERATOR:** Okay. Tax Collector's report.

17 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** Is the Chief's Report,
18 the annual meeting or the monthly meeting?

19 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** No, the annual meeting.

20 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** We should be voting on
21 the --

22 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** No, that's going to come
23 up. We have to vote on the budget. This is just the
24 regular --

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1 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** You don't accept

2 **Committee reports? Why do you vote if we don't?**

3 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** Because you're responsible

4 **for the budget that we're presenting for you, but if you**

5 **feel that you want to vote on it --**

6 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** No, I --

7 **THE MODERATOR:** When we go over the budget

8 **items, you can put a hold on that and we'll go back to**

9 **that.**

10 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** I just can't see if it's

11 **annual meeting why we --**

12 **ATTORNEY DeSIMONE:** Since we're here at an

13 annual meeting, I would suggest that the motion be made to
14 the entire body to accept the Chief's Report.

15 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Does that make you feel
16 better?

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

18 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Okay, folks, the Board
19 recommends that you vote for it. All the people in favor
20 of the Chief's Report signify by saying aye.

21 [VOTE TAKEN]

22 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Any opposed? So we don't
23 need the green card this time. All right.

24 THE MODERATOR: Okay. David, do you want the

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1 Tax Collector's report?

2 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Second page in your

3 booklet of the Tax Collector's annual report dated

4 October 8, 2013. The collections assessed 12-31-2001.

5 You have real estate and tangible, also motor vehicles.

6 Keep in mind, motor vehicles were still under state

7 mandate. We cannot charge more than a dollar ten

8 thousand. We cannot raise the rate. Everybody has been

9 locked in. The total collected, I'm sorry, the total is

10 \$1,004,326.64.

11 Now, collected right up to September 30th, we have

12 collected a total of \$994,144.39. Outstanding taxes for
13 the year, real estate and tangible, motor vehicles and
14 prior years is a total of \$68,394.34. Are there any
15 questions? Yes, sir? Please stand up and state your name
16 and where you live.

17 MR. GAGNON: Gene Gagnon 20 Mussey Brook.

18 Mr. Commissioner, how long are we tied into the dollar
19 ten?

20 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: According to the state,
21 until our legislature decides to change it. Everybody is
22 locked in at the rate where they are. We've been locked
23 in since they let us come back. That was a double-edged
24 sword. We were at a dollar ten which we thought was fair.

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1 Then when we eliminated it altogether, we lost the motor
2 vehicle phase out. Then all of a sudden they said yeah,
3 you can start charging with the local level, but it has to
4 be at the level it was seven years ago when you stopped.

5 MR. GAGNON: Until the legislation changed --

6 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: It's a state thing.

7 Everybody is under that. People that charged a lot of
8 money, congratulations. But we're still at a dollar ten.

9 Are there any other questions on the budget? Okay, seeing
10 none, all those in favor of approving the Tax Collector's

11 report signify by saying aye.

12 [VOTE TAKEN]

13 THE MODERATOR: Opposed? We need a motion.

14 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Can I have a motion?

15 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: Motion.

16 COMMISSIONER ADAMSKI: Second.

17 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Motion made by

18 Commissioner Napolitano, seconded by Commissioner
Adamski.

19 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

20 [VOTE TAKEN]

21 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: The ayes have it. Motion

22 carries. That's the Tax Collector's report.

23 THE MODERATOR: Okay. Treasurer's report.

24 **TREASURER NEVES: On the third page of your**

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1 **agenda, as of August 31st, cash accounts, we had general**
2 **fund disbursements \$45,905. Investments were \$115,464,**
3 **petty cash was \$148, cash account in Freedom Savings Bank**
4 **was \$56,382. Cash account money market shares with**
5 **Navigant was \$172,766. And we had designated accounts of**
6 **\$76,281 and restricted accounts of 30,989. That brought**
7 **it to balance as of August 31st on the bank statements of**
8 **\$497,937.69. Then we had outstanding checks and payments**
9 **of \$28,059.96. Outstanding deposits of \$21,015 for a net**

10 of \$7,044.77 negative. So we have general ledger balance
11 at the end of August of \$490,892.92. Respectfully
12 submitted Raymond Neves, Treasure. Any questions?

13 MR. GAGNON: Mr. Neves, having \$490,000 cash on
14 hand today; is that correct?

15 TREASURER NEVES: Please?

16 MR. GAGNON: 490,892 cash on hand today?

17 TREASURER NEVES: Yes.

18 MR. GAGNON: With approximately --

19 TREASURER NEVES: As of August 31st.

20 MR. GAGNON: Approximately 135,000 left in this
21 year's budget. We have a total cash of \$355,000 in your
22 estimate?

23 TREASURER NEVES: Yes.

24 MR. GAGNON: Okay, thank you.

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1 THE MODERATOR: I think you were next.

2 MR. BRANDY: Carl Brandy, 3 Shady Brook Circle.

3 How come there was such a huge change in the investment?

4 TREASURER NEVES: From August you mean? What

5 happened is we keep the funds and investments, then we

6 transfer them to the general funds as we need them. So as

7 the payroll, the checks, are being cut we transfer from

8 the investments to the general fund disbursement. The

9 investments is like overnight thing.

10 MR. BRANDY: Right, but if you have such a
11 large amount of cash on hand right now, why did you need a
12 transfer of that amount of money on investments?

13 TREASURER NEVES: This is cash on hand. Look
14 at the general fund disbursements. At the end of August,
15 for instance, beginning of August rather, we only had
16 28,000. Okay. Then what happened is we have the payroll
17 and then the outstanding, and then the checks that are cut
18 for the month of September. I mean, the month of August.

19 That's why we had the transfer of some funds from the
20 investment account into the general fund disbursement
21 account, to cover those checks that are written in the

22 payroll. But you receive the majority of your money in
23 the first couple of months of the year. We deposited into
24 the investment account, not into the general fund

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1 disbursement.

2 **THE MODERATOR:** Excuse me a minute. I'm sorry

3 I need to -- Mr. Wingate, I do keep track of that,

4 Mr. Wingate.

5 **MR. WINGATE:** I pass. All set.

6 **THE MODERATOR:** Okay.

7 **MR. SANTINELLO:** Thomas Santinello, 16 Spring

8 Hill Road. You brought up that point about the money. I

9 guess it's a point I want to bring up that I sat with the

10 Board this year. Do you guys remember that? Okay. And

11 we have so much of cash amount in hand, I wanted to do it

12 in quarterly payments. Sounds like we can do that.

13 COMMISSIONER LEONE: That's under Resolutions.

14 MR. SANTINELLO: That's at another time?

15 THE MODERATOR: That's in the packet, it's in

16 one of the Resolutions for to you vote on.

17 MR. SANTINELLO: Okay. Are we doing that?

18 THE MODERATOR: Yeah. Well, depending when we

19 do that.

20 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: We actually put a

21 Resolution in for two payments. The reason why we did
22 that is, under general accounting standards we're supposed
23 to have 10 to 15 percent cash on hand for surplus and then
24 several -- there are several projects that are also going

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1 to be proposed for you to vote on if they're in the
2 Chief's report. That will take some of that surplus. So
3 you'll get to vote on all those things, but remember when
4 we had that discussion, we thought we weren't comfortable
5 with four because the way the money comes in, having paid
6 the bill, we thought it was a fair request and that we

7 could go with two which is better than one.

8 MR. SANTINELLO: I was just bringing it up.

9 Was that --

10 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: If you look in the
11 booklet, Resolution Number 12, actually that was based on
12 your meeting with us.

13 THE MODERATOR: Second page of the Resolution.
14 Any other questions or comments? May I have a motion?

15 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: So moved.

16 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: I'll second.

17 THE MODERATOR: Motion made and seconded. Any
18 discussion? Hearing none, I accept the report. All in
19 favor? All in favor?

20 [VOTE TAKEN]

21 THE MODERATOR: Any opposed? Anybody abstain
22 or anybody care to -- all set?

23 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: I'm up.

24 THE MODERATOR: He took my sheet away. Next

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1 thing was the Fire Commissioner's Chairman's Report, but
2 we're going to waive that report at this time.

3 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Once again, most of you
4 people have been through the difficult times. Most of you
5 have been through the times of severe consternation, some

6 of the problems that we had. And the change that we've
7 done is nothing short of miraculous. The thing is we're
8 always doing it with the best interest of the District at
9 heart. And the district, we meet regularly like we're
10 supposed to. We're all from different political
11 backgrounds. We're also from different places in life.
12 But we all look at one thing, and that's the best thing
13 for what's best for us, for this district because no
14 matter what happens, we're taxpayers, too. All right?

15 Now, one of the things I probably shouldn't bring up,
16 but I want to give you a quick hit on, is the fact that
17 the consolidation stuff, we had a meeting here and we,
18 Commissioner Napolitano and I, went through this. We were

19 there from the beginning. Two other districts were on
20 board. We went through the whole program. And one of the
21 districts bowed out and we looked at what was coming down
22 the line. We, in good conscience, could not vote for it.
23 Why? Because we pay the freight just like you do. That's
24 why we didn't. We're still amenable to it, but the one

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1 thing I want to point out is that we're not the district.
2 The districts are those people in the blue in the back
3 that we're Albion fire. The district is that gentleman
4 right there. All right. They made this what it is. We

5 are the top district in this town. They have done the
6 work. All we do is make sure that it's done the right
7 way. As far as the financial end is concerned. We owe,
8 all the taxpayers here, owe a debt, the gratitude to those
9 individuals. Keep that in mind. Because they still
10 answer the calls. They still do it at high level. And
11 they still make the district proud. Thank you.

12 THE MODERATOR: Thank you. Can I have a motion
13 to accept the report?

14 COMMISSIONER ADAMSKI: So moved.

15 TREASURER NEVES: Second.

16 THE MODERATOR: Any discussion or question?

17 MR. MARTIN: Don Martin, 2 Mossy Brook Road.

18 There's a consolidation that's probably down the road.

19 It's going to come to a vote.

20 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: That's an assumption.

21 MR. MARTIN: An assumption, but it's a pretty

22 good assumption the way it's going for the next three,

23 maybe five years, possible. And with all the tax paying

24 money that we're paying on both ends, Lyndon, Albion, I

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1 don't know if we should put a notation to the town saying

2 I'm all for consolidation. Really. I mean, we have to

3 set new standards somehow. I mean, Cumberland is trying.

4 **We're just next.**

5 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Would you like me to**
6 **address that?**

7 **THE MODERATOR: Let's go through the Chair. Go**
8 **ahead.**

9 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN: All right. We talked**
10 **about this in the past. We've talked about it, you and I.**
11 **You drive by the house. We can all assume that within the**
12 **next 35 years we'll all be dead or we will hit the**
13 **lottery. There is no guarantee. Realize this, and I said**
14 **this before on paper, and I know it sounds a little bit**
15 **rough, but there's still -- we are dealing with most of**
16 **the departments -- the problem is this. Six different**

17 kingdoms, six different kings, six different tax rates.

18 We go to the meetings. We are telling them we are

19 interested. They have a letter from us indicating that we

20 are still open to consolidation. Saylesville has done the

21 same thing. We've been in it since the beginning.

22 Now, one of the districts that was in it got cold

23 feet and jumped out. Keep this in mind. They also hadn't

24 had an audit of their books in 17 years. I'm not buying a

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1 pig and a poke. I am not going to risk the district

2 financial-wise to take our poor relative who we don't even

3 know what they've got, and they still refuse to have an
4 audit of their books. When Mike and I looked at it, we
5 looked at it God knows how long, and said, "My God, it's
6 going to cost us more money." I'm not going to do like --
7 I'm not saying what Cumberland does, we're going to save
8 you money, but it's going to cost you more to start with.
9 That doesn't do any good.

10 So what we do is, we're operating on the idea that
11 we're still a viable organization. We're still interested
12 to talk about the consolidation. As a matter of fact, at
13 the last meeting I went to with the safety committee, you
14 realize how little they actually know what the fire
15 department does to the point where they thought it was

16 just going to hire a bunch of guys that were going to work
17 24 hours a day, seven days a week and never go home. They
18 have no clue. But they have a lot of ideas, and they need
19 somebody to go in. And I said one of the things that we
20 talked about as far as the study goes, sure, you can get a
21 guy from the study to put together. But the guys wearing
22 the white shirts have the five bugles -- you have five,
23 right?

24 CHIEF ANDREWS: Last I counted.

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1 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: The five bugle people,

2 they know what to do. You got to get the other five bugle
3 people that want to agree. We have two that are ready to
4 go right now. The rest of them talk a good game, but they
5 don't bring anything to the table. And some don't even
6 show up at the table.

7 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO:** Can I make a point?

8 Without spending too much time on this, that day will
9 probably come. I don't know when, but you all get to vote
10 on it in meetings, and you'll get what they say and you'll
11 get -- I can tell you we have a meeting for what, three
12 years and I spent so much -- we spent so much time with
13 this committee. We spent so much time on this and had a
14 lot of meetings and a lot of time. You know, when you

15 look back, I don't know if I will jump in again to go to
16 all those meetings all over again to maybe have the same
17 thing happen. Their fire district doesn't want anything
18 to do with it, and we can't force them to the table. And
19 there are no economists of scale for two fire districts to
20 combine, just not worth it, especially when we're not even
21 adjacent to each other. We need to have at least three,
22 and they start balking with six months to go. We knew
23 there was something going on. We didn't tell them not to
24 be part of it. They made their own decision. We kept

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1 asking for an audit, and every year they say -- this went
2 on three years and every year next year, next year. I
3 question if they were serious from the beginning. But to
4 put that time into a project and see what happens, I was
5 not a happy camper. When I think at some point, as you
6 say, it needs to happen.

7 MR. MARTIN: Aren't they required to have an
8 audit no matter who is in the districts of the --

9 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: We can't say.

10 MR. MARTIN: I mean, possibly somebody is
11 breaking the law.

12 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: You would think their
13 taxpayers would be demanding an audit, but I can't speak

14 for them.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Are they? If they did

16 consolidate, if they did consolidate, are they going to

17 use the same depots for fire station?

18 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: You know, that's not

19 our decision to make, but one would think, what do we have

20 seven fire stations? From my personal opinion, okay, and

21 I'm not an expert in how many fire stations we should

22 have, but I would think we don't need seven. That's my

23 personal opinion. How many we need, I don't know. But I

24 would think you wouldn't need seven after a consolidation.

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1 That's my opinion.

2 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** Would you think ours
3 would be the top?

4 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** Ours isn't going anywhere.

5 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** That's what I'm trying
6 it get to.

7 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** We have an idea. We can't say,
8 but we have an idea --

9 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO:** Once again, it's up
10 to the taxpayers.

11 **THE MODERATOR:** Okay, folks. Monitor the next
12 item which is the budget. Start with the full-time

13 personnel in Column 11, full-time personnel.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Excuse me. On the

15 procedure, please, are you going to read off all the line

16 items and discuss them or discuss them as you go through?

17 THE MODERATOR: Well, here is what I thought.

18 We've done this before. If you have a hold on any item I

19 mention, we'll mark it and then come back to it to discuss

20 it. I'll just go through them. If you have a hold, raise

21 your hand. I'll put a mark there and we'll hold it.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

23 THE MODERATOR: Is that acceptable?

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

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1 THE MODERATOR: Full-time personnel, \$299,983
2 which is an increase of \$12,618. Part-time personnel,
3 \$190,000. That's an increase of \$17,500.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hold.

5 THE MODERATOR: Okay. Overtime and vacation,
6 \$18,000. That's an increase of \$3,000. Tax Collector's
7 salary, \$7,800. That's a decrease of \$10,100. Part-time
8 clerk, \$5,200. Sick leave payout is \$3,000. Clothing
9 allowance, \$6,500, \$6,500. District officials, \$11,338.
10 No change there. Call fund, \$30,000. Health insurance,
11 \$66,500. Payroll expenses, \$45,000. That's an increase

12 of \$2,000. Training, \$8,000. No change there. Payroll
13 fees, \$3,400. Increase of a hundred dollars increase.
14 Pension, \$56,000. Computer and software, \$2,000.
15 Association fees, \$1,100. Telephone, \$3,500. That's an
16 increase of \$300. Building, heat, gas, \$8,600. Building,
17 electric, \$9,200. District meeting, \$2,000. Tax office
18 data processing, \$3,500. That's an increase of \$260.
19 Apparatus fuel, \$16,000. Office supplies, \$3,000. New
20 equipment, \$12,000. Apparatus \$25,000. Fire alarm and
21 communications, \$3,300. Station, \$10,000. That's the
22 same. Equipment, \$5,340. Building, \$12,820. Vehicles,
23 \$7,815, accident and health \$24,582. Workers'
24 compensation, \$283. Station equipment, \$4,000. Legal and

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1 accounting, \$20,000. Provisions \$2,000. Ladder 20 loan,
2 \$30,314. Squad 21 loan, \$47,518. Building loan, \$38,698.
3 Total expenses, \$1,043,291, which is an increase over last
4 year of \$30,878. This represents an increase of three
5 percent. I should go back to -- yes. You had a question
6 on part-time personnel. I had a hold on that.

7 MR. WINGATE: Yes, Mr. Bob Wingate, 9 Shady
8 Brook Circle. Chief, just a quick question on the
9 part-time. It's gone up 17.5 this year. I couldn't quite
10 understand what you were saying. This room is not

11 acoustically designed for low voices. To what do you
12 attribute that 17.5 again, please?

13 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** During the day, the busiest
14 time, right now we have three people on duty, part-time
15 person during the days because it's our busiest time for
16 the calls in the Albion district. We are responding right
17 now with two people on an engine, one firefighter on a
18 ladder which is not a good thing. Part-time person would
19 give us that second person on a ladder truck for our
20 district. Next year I wanted to add the other two days
21 and we have five days.

22 **MR. WINGATE:** So the 17.5 increase is in hours?

23 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** Increase in hours.

24 MR. WINGATE: When is the last time those

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1 fellows had some sort of a pay increase?

2 CHIEF ANDREWS: It's in there now.

**3 MR. WINGATE: Could you give me a rough idea
4 what that percentage is?**

**5 CHIEF ANDREWS: I didn't break it down on
6 percentage.**

7 MR. WINGATE: I hate to put you on the point.

8 CHIEF ANDREWS: Five percent maybe.

9 MR. WINGATE: They did get an increase of five

10 percent. Thank you.

11 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** Again, I can tell you what they
12 make if you want.

13 **MR. WINGATE:** No, no. I am not interested. As
14 long as they got some sort a stipend.

15 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** They get per hour.

16 **MR. WINGATE:** I understand.

17 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** They have a pretty decent
18 raise.

19 **MR. WINGATE:** Okay.

20 **MR. SANTINELLO:** How many full-time employees
21 are there?

22 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** Five, five firefighters,

23 counting me.

24 MR. SANTINELLO: And the full-time, are the

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1 only ones with health benefits?

2 CHIEF ANDREWS: Yes. I don't get health

3 benefits. I get it from somewhere else.

4 MR. SANTINELLO: Okay. So four people, 66,000?

5 CHIEF ANDREWS: Yes.

6 COMMISSIONER LEONE: That's no increase this

7 year.

8 CHIEF ANDREWS: That's no increase.

9 **MR. SANTINELLO:** Seems like a lot.

10 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** It's not. It's not. That's

11 through the town. We do it through the town because the

12 town is in a group. We get a good rate on it. It's a

13 pretty good rate. That hasn't gone up too much in the

14 last few years.

15 **MR. SANTINELLO:** The 66,000 is divided by four?

16 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** It's almost 17,000 for a family

17 plan, and then you got to put Delta Dental on top of that.

18 Another \$1,200 for Delta Dental.

19 **THE MODERATOR:** Optical as well?

20 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** No.

21 **THE MODERATOR:** Even more.

22 CHIEF ANDREWS: Blue Cross.

23 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: Not a bad deal.

24 CHIEF ANDREWS: It's a pretty good deal.

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**1 THE MODERATOR: Any further questions on this
2 before I make a motion?**

**3 MR. GAGNON: Mr. Moderator, can we go back to a
4 few of the items for that. You were going pretty fast.**

5 THE MODERATOR: Okay. Total expenses for --

**6 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: You want to talk about it
7 later?**

8 **MR. GAGNON: Yes.**

9 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: Can I make that**

10 **motion? I'd like to make a motion for a reconsider on the**

11 **line item of part-time clerk of \$5,200. Second?**

12 **COMMISSIONER REMILLARD: I'll second.**

13 **THE MODERATOR: Motion made and seconded. All**

14 **in favor?**

15 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

16 **THE MODERATOR: Okay.**

17 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: I think everybody has**

18 **to vote.**

19 **THE MODERATOR: All in favor?**

20 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

21 THE MODERATOR: Any nays or nos?

22 COMMISSIONER ADAMSKI: Nay.

23 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: We're elected

24 officials so we're not seeking an increase. We went

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1 several years without one. That comes with being an

2 elected commission. The clerk is not. She is paid. And

3 since everyone else is getting an increase, I feel she

4 works very hard and puts in a lot of time for that money

5 and it would probably cost out to less than minimum wage

6 in my eyes. So I would like to see her incur the same

7 increase that the other employees are getting. I believe
8 it was three percent. I would like to see her, her annual
9 amount, increase by two and a half percent. I make a
10 motion to increase it by two and a half percent.

11 THE MODERATOR: Second?

12 COMMISSIONER REMILLARD: I'll second.

13 THE MODERATOR: Any comments?

14 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: I'm not talking about

15 that. One of the things that we have to do, we're very

16 fortunate for Lois Moore. One of the things we have at

17 the last meeting is that the former Tax Collector was

18 somewhat unavailable and we didn't have anybody that was

19 the face of the business end of the office. If the Chief

20 is out on a call or doing his chiefly duties in the town
21 or something, we didn't have anybody that would be able to
22 answer questions. And we received a lot of complaints,
23 especially when they wanted to register their car and the
24 former tax clerk and treasurer had taken the stop off it

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1 because he hadn't processed checks in time. Luckily, we
2 have Lois Moore who, in addition to keeping us in line at
3 meetings for no extra charge, she is the face of the
4 district's business. She spends ten hours a week in the
5 station, and she is not there saying, well I'm here from

6 nine to twelve. She's up there at 6:00 at night
7 sometimes. She is there to answer questions. And people
8 have said, "Boy, you actually get an answer. You are
9 talking to somebody, not a machine." And she gets back to
10 people. She does a heck of a job. So I'd like to say
11 that I thought you were going to try to cancel that. As
12 far as the raise goes, even if you do give her a two and a
13 half percent raise, we're still paying less than what we
14 were paying for one individual to do the job and we
15 weren't getting the best bang for the buck from that
16 individual.

17 THE MODERATOR: Yes.

18 MR. GAGNON: Can somebody go through the

19 scenario on how we went down 10,100 in the Tax Collector's
20 salary and now we have something like new line item? Can
21 someone explain what happened?

22 THE MODERATOR: Sure. Mike, would you?

23 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Mr. Gagnon, the first
24 thing, what we were paying the Tax Collector salary was

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1 \$17,900. And when we had a parting of the ways, we were
2 fortunate enough to share in the tax collection salary and
3 sales. And we agreed on this price and wholeheartedly
4 agreed that he would do the job, which he has. And the

5 **thing is, is that we wanted somebody that if people came**
6 **in -- because we don't want to have -- and it's not that**
7 **we feel the Chief is dishonest. It's the idea the Chief**
8 **shouldn't be responsible for collecting money. That's not**
9 **his position. Those days are long gone. He has**
10 **responsibility to handle the firefighters on the force,**
11 **not to be the clerk. And what we need is somebody to be**
12 **in the station. And we asked Lois if she was interested**
13 **in it. She said she was. And we still look at it, if we**
14 **give her a raise, we're still saving \$2,500 to \$3,000 and**
15 **we're getting better service and you get a chance to talk**
16 **to somebody.**

17 **MR. GAGNON: Can I get an explanation on the**

18 \$3,700 for the 2012-13 versus the 52? Would that be an
19 increase in her hours, is that what it was?

20 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Well, no, halfway through
21 the year --

22 CHIEF ANDREWS: That was halfway through the
23 year.

24 MR. GAGNON: Okay. I'm good with that. I

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1 understand now.

2 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Is that the one you were
3 asking about?

4 MR. GAGNON: Yes.

5 THE MODERATOR: Commissioner Napolitano.

6 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: A lot of things that

7 happened in the fire station we had records that needed to

8 be found and photo copied, and the clerk would have to

9 come back to the fire station several times a week. It's

10 a lot of hours for that amount of money. I don't think

11 you could find anybody to step up for that amount of money

12 every year. Keep in mind, this Fire District at one time

13 did have somebody who was making, I believe, \$35,000 a

14 year in the position of clerk and Tax Collector. And that

15 was four years ago, five years ago. So we significantly

16 saved the District money in this area. At the same time,

17 I don't think somebody should work for such a small -- I
18 feel it's worth the increase, such a small amount of
19 money.

20 MR. WINGATE: Why don't you take it up to three
21 percent instead of two and a half?

22 THE MODERATOR: There is already a motion. I
23 can't accept --

24 MR. WINGATE: We can amend the motion.

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1 THE MODERATOR: First we have to --

2 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: I can withdraw a motion

3 and submit a new one if you'd like.

4 **THE MODERATOR:** That would be the easiest way
5 to do it.

6 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO:** I'll withdraw my
7 motion for two and a half percent and put in a new motion
8 to increase it to three percent.

9 **THE MODERATOR:** Change all our figures now.

10 **MR. WINGATE:** I make a motion.

11 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** I'll second.

12 **THE MODERATOR:** Motion made and seconded.

13 **MR. WINGATE:** All right. Two and a half to
14 three. Before you pass that motion, I'd like to have that
15 motion tabled to see if we're going to go on Resolution

16 R-13 if that's going to pass, which is going to increase
17 Ms. Moore's work load dramatically because now you're
18 going to be dealing with people coming in. Have I got the
19 right resolution, I'm sorry, it's Resolution Number 12.
20 It's going to increase her work dramatically.

21 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: That's for the Tax
22 Collector.

23 MR. WINGATE: Doesn't she serve part-time as
24 that?

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1 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: No. She can't make the

2 deposit. The Tax Collector --

3 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO:** All it's going to do

4 is divide the payments into twice a year instead of once.

5 That means some more bookkeeping and paperwork. I agree

6 there is more work involved.

7 **MR. WINGATE:** If she feels in her end she's in

8 the office making collections and the Tax Collector is

9 going to get behind --

10 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** Mr. Moderator, can I say

11 something? Just to clarify what the jobs are here. We

12 have the Tax Collector. He takes care of collecting the

13 taxes, doing the deposits and so forth. Lois is our

14 clerk, who when he's not there, can take a payment or do

15 tax checks for people that call up, that type of thing.

16 So it's all -- it's for both of them.

17 MR. WINGATE: Does the Tax Collector work for
18 the Albion Fire District?

19 CHIEF ANDREWS: Yes. He's there every day. He
20 comes to Albion and Lois is there the same way. Three
21 days, right.

22 MS. MOORE: Three days.

23 CHIEF ANDREWS: 20 hours a week, they are both
24 20 hours a week.

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1 **MR. WINGATE: Okay.**

2 **CHIEF ANDREWS: But what we try do is have**
3 **someone there mainly in the morning from nine until one**
4 **especially during tax season. And any time we don't have**
5 **that, it is usually on a Monday, where Lois comes in in**
6 **the afternoon for people that work can come in at night**
7 **until six.**

8 **MR. WINGATE: All right.**

9 **CHIEF ANDREWS: She doesn't do all the Tax**
10 **Collector's job.**

11 **MR. WINGATE: I know she didn't do it all.**

12 **CHIEF ANDREWS: She does a lot of work, believe**
13 **me.**

14 **MR. WINGATE:** I was under the impression she
15 was there a great part of the day taking those monies.

16 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** No. In other words, when he is
17 done and he goes home, if someone happens to come in when
18 she's there, she can collect the money. She does tax
19 checks, release the blocks on cars, that type of thing.

20 **MR. WINGATE:** Okay.

21 **THE MODERATOR:** Okay.

22 **MR. GAGNON:** Does that Tax Collector know that
23 we're going into semi-annual collection and he is good
24 with that?

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1 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** Yes, he's done the research on
2 it.

3 **ATTORNEY DeSIMONE:** Through the Moderator, also
4 one of the other duties of the clerk has been increased
5 with regard to some legislation that the State put in to
6 call for Minutes now being filed before they were approved
7 by the district so it's a second draft of Minutes that's
8 required also.

9 **MR. WINGATE:** I am not trying to take money
10 away from her. I want to make sure she's getting
11 adequate --

12 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** She puts in more hours than

13 what she gets paid for.

14 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: I'll make a motion
15 for \$5,356 for part-time clerk.

16 THE MODERATOR: Do I have a second?

17 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Second.

18 THE MODERATOR: Any comments? Hearing none,
19 the motion passes.

20 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: You have to vote.

21 THE MODERATOR: Sorry. I keep forgetting. All
22 in favor?

23 [VOTE TAKEN]

24 THE MODERATOR: Any opposed? Motion carries.

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1 Now we're going to go to the amount which has changed
2 twice already. Total expenses of all of the items I read
3 to you is now \$1,043,447. That's not --

4 ATTORNEY DeSIMONE: It's actually \$156.

5 THE MODERATOR: Motion to accept?

6 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: I'll make a motion.

7 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Napolitano made a motion.

8 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Second.

9 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Allen seconded it. All in
10 favor, signify by saying aye.

11 [VOTE TAKEN]

12 **THE MODERATOR:** Any opposed? Motion carries.

13 We're going to go on to turn to the Resolutions at this
14 time.

15 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** Point of order, we're
16 going to actually move to the election of district
17 officers next.

18 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** Don't you do revenue
19 expenses budget?

20 **ATTORNEY DeSIMONE:** The problem is only on the
21 agenda we have to take make a motion to take it out of
22 order because the next item is elections.

23 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** No, on the agenda is
24 budget.

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1 ATTORNEY DeSIMONE: The Resolutions, we can do
2 the Resolution. We have to have a motion from someone
3 either from the Chair or -- we just need the expense part
4 of the budget. Line item is budget presentation. Budget
5 includes the expense portion which you already approved,
6 and the next portion of the budget to complete that part
7 goes to revenues.

8 THE MODERATOR: The top part?

9 ATTORNEY DeSIMONE: That's correct. That
10 finishes your proposed budget.

11 **THE MODERATOR:** I'm going to go to the --

12 **ATTORNEY DeSIMONE:** The only issue we have is
13 the first portion of the proposed revenue is the tax rate
14 so that Resolution with respect to the tax rate needs to
15 be approved.

16 **COMMISSIONER REMILLARD:** Resolution is --

17 **ATTORNEY DeSIMONE:** My suggestion would be to
18 move the Resolutions as part of the budget so we take a
19 motion to amend the agenda to just change the order of the
20 agenda and put the Resolutions in with the budget.

21 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** After the -- before old
22 business.

23 **COMMISSIONER REMILLARD:** Right.

24 THE MODERATOR: Motion to change the agenda.

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1 Anybody?

**2 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: Motion to review the
3 revenue before Old Business.**

**4 THE MODERATOR: It should be called Unfinished
5 Business instead of Old Business.**

**6 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: So as the fourth
7 Resolution.**

**8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No. I did want to
9 include the tax rate in the Resolution. Then you have to**

10 put the revenue part of the budget after you vote on the
11 Resolutions.

12 COMMISSIONER REMILLARD: Right.

13 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Any changes that go up we
14 would have to amend the tax level. That's understood.

15 THE MODERATOR: Okay. This is a first.

16 ATTORNEY DeSIMONE: You're going to move the
17 revenue. [INAUDIBLE]

18 TREASURER NEVES: The motion is to do the
19 Resolutions and then the revenue portion of the budget.

20 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: So moved.

21 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Second.

22 THE MODERATOR: All in favor?

23

[VOTE TAKEN]

24

THE MODERATOR: Opposed? Motion carries. So

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1 **now we'll go to --**

2 **ATTORNEY DeSIMONE: You can go in the regular**

3 **order now. You can do the elections and we already have**

4 **it posted.**

5 **THE MODERATOR: Do I seem confused tonight?**

6 **Because I am. This is the first time in all the years**

7 **I've been doing this that we had this type of thing. I'm**

8 **trying to get it straight here. We're going to move on to**

9 the election of district officers. Position for Fire

10 Commissioner, five-year term, candidate Sharon Remillard.

11 Is there any one else interested in that?

12 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: I nominate Sharon for
13 another term.

14 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Second.

15 COMMISSIONER LEONE: Second.

16 THE MODERATOR: Any discussion? No other
17 candidate? I am allowed to cast one vote necessary to
18 elect Commissioner Remillard, and I'd pay a heck of a
19 price if I didn't. The position Treasurer, one-year term,
20 candidate Raymond Neves.

21 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Yes. Do you want to do it

22 again, Ray?

23 TREASURER NEVES: Yes.

24 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Okay. I nominate Ray

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1 Neves.

2 THE MODERATOR: Is there a second?

3 COMMISSIONER ADAMSKI: Second.

4 THE MODERATOR: Any questions? All in favor?

5 [VOTE TAKEN]

6 THE MODERATOR: Thank you. Motion carried.

7 The position of Moderator, one-year term, candidate open.

8 **Anyone interested in doing this?**

9 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Seeing that we don't have**

10 **anybody else, and your dynamic presence is always**

11 **appreciated, I'd like to know if you're interested in**

12 **doing it again? Thank you. We'll close the nominations.**

13 **One vote for the Moderator, congratulations, you're it.**

14 **THE MODERATOR: All right. Let me get to the**

15 **Resolution. If it was off the record, I'd have a few**

16 **comments. We'll say it after the meeting. I'll tell you**

17 **how I got this job to begin with. Okay. What I propose**

18 **is that I'm going to read each Resolution, then we vote on**

19 **them individually. If you have a hold on any of them,**

20 **just tell me. We'll hold that and we'll come back to**

21 that. Is that agreeable to everyone?

22 Resolution: R-1, be it resolved that we the Albion

23 Fire District voters assembled here on October 8, 2013 do

24 hereby set the minimum tax on real estate, commercial real

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1 estate, and taxable to be set at \$30. Is there a motion

2 to accept?

3 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: I make a motion we accept

4 it as read.

5 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: Second.

6 THE MODERATOR: Any discussion or hold on that

7 **Resolution? Hearing none, all in favor signify by saying**
8 **aye.**

9 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

10 **THE MODERATOR: Any opposed? That Resolution**
11 **will pass. Resolution R-2, be it resolved that we the**
12 **voters of the Albion Fire District assembled here on**
13 **October 8th, 2013 do hereby establish a three-tier tax**
14 **rate for real property within the district as follows: A**
15 **rate of \$1.50 per thousand for those properties designated**
16 **by the Town of Lincoln as residential; a rate of a 1.75**
17 **per thousand for those properties designated as**
18 **commercial; and a rate of \$3 per thousand for property**
19 **designated as tangible. Is there a motion?**

20 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: So moved.**

21 **COMMISSIONER ADAMSKI: Second.**

22 **THE MODERATOR: Motion made and seconded. Any**
23 **comments? Carl, the Chair recognizes you.**

24 **MR. BERNETTI: Carl Bernetti, 3 Shady Brook**

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1 **Circle. How much -- according to the budget, if you are**
2 **not going over budget, you have approximately -- left to**
3 **spend this fiscal year, is that about right, in bills in**
4 **the fiscal year?**

5 **TREASURER NEVES: Yes, correct.**

6 **MR. BERNETTI:** So that would mean that all the
7 **Resolutions pass, that leaves you a surplus of 293,969,**
8 **which is 28 percent, approximately, of your approved**
9 **budget. Isn't that an awful large surplus to be carrying**
10 **when you should be carrying somewhere between 8 to**
11 **12 percent, probably, around 10 for the district?**

12 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO:** I can't remember.

13 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** Didn't we say that wasn't
14 **enough. This is our --**

15 **MR. BERNETTI:** But 28 percent is way over.
16 **What is the recommended amount of surplus, Mr. Moderator?**
17 **What would be the recommended surplus for district of this**
18 **size to carry percentage?**

19 **MR. CIVETTI:** Best practice is anywhere, as I
20 mentioned earlier, between 10 and 15 percent. They like
21 to see it around 15 percent level so 15 percent of your
22 operating budget.

23 **MR. BERNETTI:** So right now you would be
24 carrying 28 percent, 13 percent even over the maximum, so

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1 shouldn't that money be used to defray the increase in the
2 property tax? You just said we're doing it for the first
3 time in a little while.

4 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** You have to take into

5 consideration if you look at the other Resolutions.

6 MR. BERNETTI: I already counted those, \$93,000

7 total Resolutions proposed. So if they all get passed, it

8 still leaves you 13 percent over.

9 CHIEF ANDREWS: 15 covers the budget.

10 THE MODERATOR: Chief, do you want to comment

11 on that?

12 CHIEF ANDREWS: Well, it leaves you 15 percent.

13 You still need 15 percent to cover your budget.

14 MR. BERNETTI: 28 percent minus 15 is

15 13 percent in excess of maximum recommended.

16 MR. CIVETTI: Where are you getting the

17 28 percent figure?

18 **MR. BERNETTI:** I subtracted the 293,969 divided
19 by 1,043,447. It's 28 percent of your operating budget
20 because you take the 490.892 --

21 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** And you have to subtract two
22 months more worth of bills off of that.

23 **MR. BERNETTI:** I just asked. Your spending
24 budget is 909 of 1,000,013, that leaves you 103,923 to

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1 spend without going over budget this year. I asked the
2 Treasurer if that's about what is left to pay. He said
3 yes. So subtract that away from -- you have 49,892.

4 **Subtract 93 Resolutions, subtract 103,923 left for the**
5 **budget year. That leaves 293,969. That's 28 percent of**
6 **the operating budget.**

7 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN: If you remember correctly,**
8 **you brought it up the last time way back when and**
9 **literally hamstrung the District. We don't want to get**
10 **into that situation.**

11 **MR. BERNETTI: That's why I asked.**

12 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: I get your point**
13 **because we brought that up in the budget hearing.**

14 **MR. BERNETTI: It's just that you're increasing**
15 **the tax rate when you can bring it -- it doesn't make any**
16 **difference in the amount.**

17 **MR. CIVETTI:** I was just looking. You're
18 referring to that last column on the proposed budget where
19 it shows collected revenue, year to date. So you got
20 total revenues, 2012-13 1,012,213 versus expenses of 909.

21 **MR. BERNETTI:** I'm not looking at revenues.

22 **MR. CIVETTI:** Expenditure versus revenues shows
23 you have 113,000 available, but I think as the Chief said,
24 that's through the end of August. You still have two

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1 months worth of bills to pay.

2 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** Another 150,000.

3 **MR. BERNETTI:** What I'm looking at is an
4 expense budget. It says 2012-2013 budget of \$1,013,498.
5 Expended so far collected revenue, 909,575. That leaves
6 103,923 if you don't go over budget. Then you go look at
7 the Treasurer's Report and it says register balance as of
8 8-31-2013 is \$490,892.92. That means excess.

9 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** Correct.

10 **MR. BERNETTI:** Subtract out the 93,000 for
11 Resolution, subtract 103, and it leaves you with 293,969
12 which is 28 percent of the 2012-2013 operating budget.

13 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** Is he correct, Bob?

14 **MR. CIVETTI:** Again, you're looking at cash
15 numbers here. You're not looking at other liabilities

16 that may exist. Treasurer's Report says you have a cash
17 balance. What do you have sitting in payables that are
18 not paid as of this time? There are other numbers that
19 factor into that. Your cash balance is not your fund
20 balance. Two totally different things.

21 MR. BERNETTI: That's what I was asking.

22 What's left to pay?

23 MR. CIVETTI: I don't have enough information

24 to answer that. The fund balance, the last time the

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1 report was done which was -- the 2012 fund balance was

2 roughly around 20 percent. Depending what you're adding
3 into it for the current fiscal year, if you break even,
4 20 percent now start pulling 90 plus thousands if that's
5 what the figures amount to. You're going to go at a
6 15 percent figure.

7 MR. BERNETTI: Tied up in reserved funds.

8 CHIEF ANDREWS: Can I say something, please?

9 Designated fund, we have the capital fund which this money
10 is tied up. And then we have to do the 15 percent for our
11 budget on top of that. We should probably have about
12 20,000, 25,000 that you can take and do what you have to
13 do with it after everything is paid and the Resolutions
14 are passed.

15 **MR. BERNETTI:** Can I make a suggestion then?

16 Any reserved funds or designated funds should probably be
17 identified in the budget so you know it's not sitting
18 there as excess money. That's the way it looks.

19 **TREASURER NEVES:** Some of that cash is
20 restricted. Can't use it for certain items. That's a
21 designated account versus roughly 106,000 designated,
22 which we cannot use for certain purposes.

23 **MR. BERNETTI:** But the designated accounts are
24 not --

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1 **TREASURER NEVES:** Designated to the town,
2 **76,000.**

3 **MR. BERNETTI:** I understand that, but that's
4 **accounted for in this report.**

5 **TREASURER NEVES:** Right.

6 **MR. BERNETTI:** This shows up on the report.

7 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO:** Carl, do you accept
8 **his explanation?**

9 **MR. BERNETTI:** Not entirely.

10 **MR. GAGNON:** I can't either. Can somebody give
11 **me an example of the designated and restricted accounts,**
12 **what they have to be used for?**

13 **MR. CIVETTI:** If I may, part of your

14 restrictions, if you had a fire prevention fees, fees that
15 are raised from doing smoke detectors, inspections, et
16 cetera, those fees are restricted by state law to be used
17 for fire prevention. You have other Resolutions that were
18 passed at previous District meetings where you restrict
19 money to go into a capital fund. So that's considered
20 poor designated or restricted, but I'd like to tie it up
21 for capital fund that hopefully in future years, if you
22 need that, can take it out of those funds.

23 One of the examples, I believe a Resolution last
24 year, so current fiscal year was purchased, a new Chief's

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1 vehicle. Portion of that purchase price was coming out of
2 the capital fund, so that's coming out of the reserve.
3 Again, looking at this sheet here, you're seeing how much
4 is in cash, but you really need a breakdown of all the
5 different taxes as well as what the --

6 MR. GAGNON: That's the question I asked, when
7 you take away the expenses that we have left in the
8 budget, and we got \$355,000 in cash --

9 MR. CIVETTI: That's correct. Some of that is
10 already earmarked for certain items.

11 MR. BERNETTI: That's been accounted for in
12 lines that say designated accounts.

13 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** You have to take it out of the
14 **Treasurer's report.**

15 **MR. BERNETTI:** Designated accounts line of
16 **\$76,281.48.**

17 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** The Resolutions are not.

18 **MR. BERNETTI:** Just took out the Resolutions.

19 **MR. CIVETTI:** With the numbers that are on
20 **there. I'm not certifying any of these numbers, but if**
21 **you have 490,000, what you're referring to there, up above**
22 **showing 106,000 between the designated and restricted,**
23 **pull those out. That brings you down to 385. Now, if you**
24 **have 90 plus thousand that you're going to pull out in**

1 addition to Resolutions in the current year, another
2 190,000, that brings you down to two change. 270 and
3 change. That's what you have available. Take that 270,
4 divide it by your operating budget. What is that giving
5 you for percentage wise? Again, that's just rough. I'm
6 not sure all these designated capitals are exactly where
7 they should be based on budgets that have been approved in
8 past years.

9 MR. GAGNON: My question is, if we have a
10 hundred thousand dollars left in the budget that we
11 haven't extended, and we have \$1,706,000 in restricted,

12 and we got 250, that still leaves us --

13 ATTORNEY DeSIMONE: The 114 that I am referring

14 to, not spent, that's as of August. You have to assume

15 that you come within the budget this year, that 114 is

16 going to be spent in the month of September and October.

17 You still have two months of bills to pay through the end

18 of August. This report is showing you spent 904,000 out

19 of your million, the --

20 MR. GAGNON: I got you now.

21 MR. CIVETTI: If you break even within the

22 fiscal year, you're going to be left with your cash.

23 MR. GAGNON: The budget was as of 9-10.

24 CHIEF ANDREWS: Correct.

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1 MR. GAGNON: The Treasurer's Report is
2 August 31st, so there's a month missing.

3 COMMISSIONER LEONE: Month missing.

4 MR. GAGNON: I got it now.

5 THE MODERATOR: That's why it's called a
6 meeting.

7 MR. GAGNON: My understanding this was as of
8 today.

9 CHIEF ANDREWS: It says right in there, as of
10 the bottom line.

11 **THE MODERATOR:** We haven't been rectified yet.

12 Any further comments? A motion has been made and
13 seconded.

14 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO:** I want to know, is
15 that acceptable to you, Carl?

16 **MR. BERNETTI:** For this year.

17 **MR. GAGNON:** I think --

18 **MR. BERNETTI:** What you have to do is make it
19 very clear in the budget if the expense budget is of this
20 date, the Treasurer Report is as of this date. But here
21 you don't know. If you look at this, you assume they are
22 all the same date.

23 **TREASURER NEVES:** We had to give this to the

24 printers October 1st. We did not see a September bank

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1 statement. That's the reason why.

2 **MR. BERNETTI:** I understand that. Then the
3 expense report should be as of the same date so everything
4 is in line; otherwise, there's that extra money that's not
5 accounted for between the date of one report and the
6 budget.

7 **MR. GAGNON:** Would we assume that we spent that
8 20 percent of good money budget for reserve?

9 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** Yes.

10 **MR. GAGNON:** Would you be comfortable saying
11 almost 20 percent?

12 **MR. CIVETTI:** I think so, yes.

13 **THE MODERATOR:** Any further comments?

14 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** Can we vote on this?

15 **THE MODERATOR:** All in favor?

16 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

17 **THE MODERATOR:** Opposed?

18 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** Nay.

19 **THE MODERATOR:** One abstention.

20 **COMMISSIONER REMILLARD:** Pass.

21 **THE MODERATOR:** R-3, be it resolved that we the
22 voters of the Albion Fire District assembled here on

23 **October 8, 2013 acting in accordance with applicable state**
24 **law, hereby establish a motor vehicle tax at \$1.10 per**

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1 **thousand dollars of value while adhering to the**
2 **established dollar exemption set forth by the laws of the**
3 **state with regard to motor vehicles. Be it further**
4 **resolved that the minimum tax for said motor vehicles**
5 **shall be set at a flat rate of \$10. Is there a motion to**
6 **accept?**

7 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN: So moved.**

8 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: Second.**

9 **THE MODERATOR: Any comments? All in favor**
10 **signify by saying aye.**

11 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

12 **THE MODERATOR: Any nays, negatives? Hearing**
13 **none, the Resolution passes. R-4, be it resolved that the**
14 **voters of the Albion Fire District assembled here on**
15 **October 8, 2013 do hereby authorize the commissioners of**
16 **the Albion Fire District to reallocate or transfer any**
17 **unexpended or unencumbered appropriation balance or**
18 **portion thereof from one budget item classification to**
19 **another within the approved budget due the fourth quarter**
20 **of the fiscal year. Motion to accept?**

21 **COMMISSIONER LEONE: Grant the motion.**

22 THE MODERATOR: Second?

23 COMMISSIONER REMILLARD: Second.

24 THE MODERATOR: Motion made and seconded. Any

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1 comments? Hearing none --

2 MR. MARTIN: There is no set amount.

3 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Tell the lady.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Don Martin, 2 Mussey

5 Brook. Is there any set amount of reallocating or

6 transferring? Is there a certain amount we should

7 transfer or certain percentage?

8 **ATTORNEY DeSIMONE:** I can address that. This
9 is a portion of the budget, a portion of the budget which
10 would be between the amount allocated by the District if
11 it needs to be moved from one line to another line. Maybe
12 a small amount of money that has to be moved in that last
13 quarter of the year. It doesn't allow any monies over and
14 above what you are already authorized to spend.

15 **THE MODERATOR:** Any further comments? Hearing
16 none, motion to accept Resolution signify by saying aye.

17 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

18 **THE MODERATOR:** Any negatives? Any nays?
19 Hearing none, the motion carries. Resolution R-5, be it
20 resolved that we the voters of the Albion Fire District

21 assembled here on October 8, 2013 set an interest rate of
22 18 percent per anum on all unpaid accounts and authorize
23 the Tax Collector to collect a late fee of \$25 on all
24 residential, commercial and tangible tax accounts past due

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1 for a period of 30 days or more. Is there a motion?

2 **COMMISSIONER ADAMSKI: Motion.**

3 **COMMISSIONER LEONE: Second.**

4 **THE MODERATOR: Motion made. Chair recognizes.**

5 **COMMISSIONER LEONE: Does that include the**

6 **vehicles also or is the vehicles at another point?**

7 **THE MODERATOR:** Chief, do you --

8 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** They took that out last year at
9 the meeting.

10 **MR. GAGNON:** Somebody can be delinquent on
11 their auto and they won't get interest?

12 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** They get interest. They are
13 not getting that \$25 fee.

14 **MR. GAGNON:** Okay.

15 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** They specifically said that at
16 the last annual meeting.

17 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO:** Yeah, it does not say
18 that. It says residential tangible.

19 **MR. GAGNON:** According to this, it can't be any

20 18 percent for the autos.

21 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: Correct. Autos are
22 not listed there.

23 MR. GAGNON: I would like to make an amendment
24 to that that we add the autos.

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1 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: What I'm worried about,
2 what it might include or we can interpret, I'd have to ask
3 our legal counsel on all unpaid accounts, so if you
4 haven't paid your automobile --

5 MR. GAGNON: We're describing the other three.

6 **ATTORNEY DeSIMONE:** But if he's asking that the
7 \$25 fee be added, that would be amended.

8 **MR. GAGNON:** No.

9 **ATTORNEY DeSIMONE:** The interest factor would
10 still stay on any unpaid account.

11 **THE MODERATOR:** So that's what your main
12 concern was?

13 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** Plus if you don't pay, we
14 lock up registration.

15 **THE MODERATOR:** Any further comments? Hearing
16 none, all those in favor, signify by saying aye.

17 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

18 **THE MODERATOR:** Any opposed? Hearing none, the

19 Resolution passes. R-6, be it resolved that we, the
20 voters of the Albion Fire District, assembled here on
21 October 8, 2013 do hereby authorize and approve the sum of
22 \$10,000 reserve for any areas of the approved budget that
23 may be underfunded.

24 MR. GAGNON: Motion to pass. I have to make a

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1 motion.

2 COMMISSIONER LEONE: Second.

3 THE MODERATOR: Motion to pass, as I

4 understand. Any comments? Hearing none, all in favor

5 **signify by saying aye.**

6 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

7 **THE MODERATOR: Opposed? Hearing none the**

8 **Resolution passes. R-7, be it resolved the voters of the**

9 **Albion Fire District assembled here on October 8, 2013 do**

10 **hereby authorize and approve an appropriation of up to**

11 **\$10,000 from surplus funds for the purchase of five sets**

12 **of turnout gear for firefighters. Motion?**

13 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Motion.**

14 **COMMISSIONER ADAMSKI: Second.**

15 **THE MODERATOR: Motion is made and seconded.**

16 **Any discussion? Comments? All in favor signify by saying**

17 **aye.**

18 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

19 **THE MODERATOR: Any opposed? Hearing none,**

20 **Resolution R-7 passes. R-8, be it resolved that we the**

21 **voters of the Albion Fire District assembled here**

22 **October 8, 2013 do hereby authorize and approve an**

23 **appropriation of \$20,000 from surplus funds as part of a**

24 **matching grant requirement for a new Class A fire pumper.**

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1 **If this appropriation is not disbursed in conjunction with**

2 **the award of the Fire Act Grant for a new Class A fire**

3 **pumper, this appropriation shall be allocated and**

4 transferred to the capital fund. Do I hear a motion?

5 MR. WINGATE: Move passage.

6 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Second.

7 MR. GAGNON: Question? Maybe the Chief would

8 know the answer. The 20,000, what percentage of that is

9 the matching grant, or is that a matching grant means --

10 CHIEF ANDREWS: Five percent.

11 MR. GAGNON: Thank you.

12 THE MODERATOR: Any further questions or

13 comments? Hearing none, all in favor signify by saying

14 aye.

15 [VOTE TAKEN]

16 THE MODERATOR: Opposed? Hearing none, the

17 Resolution passes. Resolution R-9, be it resolved that we
18 the voters of the Albion Fire District assembled here on
19 October 8, 2013 do hereby authorize and approve an
20 appropriation of \$5,000 from surplus funds as part of a
21 matching grant requirement for new turnout gear in
22 accordance with the terms of a potential grant. If this
23 appropriation is not disbursed in conjunction with the
24 award of a grant for turnout gear, this appropriation

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1 shall be made, allocated and transferred to the capital
2 fund. Can I have a motion?

3 **COMMISSIONER ADAMSKI: Motion.**

4 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Second.**

5 **THE MODERATOR: Any questions?**

6 **MR. GAGNON: Chief, is that the same ratio?**

7 **CHIEF ANDREWS: Yes. The maximum on that grant**

8 **is only 25,000. That's something new they came out with**

9 **this year.**

10 **THE MODERATOR: Don?**

11 **MR. MARTIN: A portion between that Resolution**

12 **7 and 9, is that the same type of gear you're looking for?**

13 **CHIEF ANDREWS: Same type of gear. I don't get**

14 **the grant.**

15 **MR. MARTIN: If you don't get the grant, the**

16 other 10,000 would --

17 CHIEF ANDREWS: No. We're going to buy five

18 sets of gear with that. I can't replace everybody with

19 the amount of money the grant is.

20 MR. MARTIN: How many turnout gears do you need

21 altogether?

22 CHIEF ANDREWS: 26 to 30 sets.

23 MR. MARTIN: The other stuff is that old?

24 CHIEF ANDREWS: It's going to be the seven,

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1 eight year mark. I don't want to have to -- if I get the

2 grant, I'll buy it all at once. I don't like buying it

3 all at once because then you have to replace it all at

4 once.

5 MR. MARTIN: Right.

6 THE MODERATOR: Any further comment? Hearing

7 none, all in favor signify by saying aye.

8 [VOTE TAKEN]

9 THE MODERATOR: Hearing none, the Resolution

10 passes. R-10, be it resolved that we the voters of the

11 Albion Fire District assembled here on October 8, 2013 do

12 hereby authorize and approve an appropriation of up to

13 \$40,000 from surplus funds for the renovation of the

14 sleeping quarters at the Albion fire station. Any motion?

15 **MR. WINGATE: I move passage.**

16 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Second.**

17 **THE MODERATOR: Motion made and seconded. Any**
18 **comments?**

19 **MR. MONTIGNA: Roland Montigna. What kind**
20 **of -- is this going to be an addition to this building?**

21 **CHIEF ANDREWS: No.**

22 **THE MODERATOR: The Chief will --**

23 **CHIEF ANDREWS: No. You know where we used to**
24 **meet in the back of the meeting room in the back of the**

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1 station, that's going to be taken out in there. We are
2 going to go in there, take one of the walls down that goes
3 into a large closet, make that the sleeping area and the
4 day room, take what was the training room there and move
5 that into the sleeping area. Where the sleeping area is
6 now is not legal. That was put in there because we didn't
7 have the funds to put in a legal one at the time, and I
8 needed to get people to sleep at the station. So that's
9 coming in. Then you have to meet the code when you put it
10 in. So it's going to be 40,000, not to exceed 40,000.

11 THE MODERATOR: If I may add for clarification,
12 it's not adding --

13 CHIEF ANDREWS: You're not going up and you're

14 not going out. It's all with inside.

15 THE MODERATOR: Some people have asked, are
16 they going to raise the building and all that.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: An addition can be
18 anything.

19 CHIEF ANDREWS: No, it's all in that room.

20 THE MODERATOR: Any further comments or
21 questions? All in favor signify by saying aye.

22 [VOTE TAKEN]

23 THE MODERATOR: Opposed? Resolution passes.

24 R-11, be it resolved that we the voters of the Albion Fire

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1 **District assembled here on October 8, 2013 do hereby**
2 **authorize and approve an appropriation of up to 18,000 for**
3 **surplus funds for the purpose of repairing and reshingling**
4 **the roof of the Albion Fire Station. Motion?**

5 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Motion.**

6 **THE MODERATOR: Second?**

7 **COMMISSIONER LEONE: Second.**

8 **THE MODERATOR: Motion made and seconded. Any**
9 **discussion or comments?**

10 **MR. MARTIN: Did you guys get bids on that,**
11 **approximately 18,000?**

12 **CHIEF ANDREWS: About 16.**

13 **MR. MARTIN:** Okay. It's 38 shingles.

14 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** 30-year shingle?

15 **THE MODERATOR:** Yes.

16 **MR. SANTINELLO:** That goes back to my only
17 thing. You said three-year prorated. That would be all
18 left. There would be 18 years left on a 30-year shingle.
19 That's a bid --

20 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** If it was a 30-year shingle up
21 there. I had the contractors look at it. I'm not so sure
22 it's the fault of a contractor, shingle or there is no
23 ventilation up there is the biggest problem.

24 **MR. SANTINELLO:** Commercial has to be 30.

1 That's the law.

2 COMMISSIONER LEONE: At the time when the
3 Building Commissioner actually did the building, we were
4 at a point where we just barely had enough money to cover
5 a roof. So we probably cut ourselves short, but we knew
6 we needed a roof back then. It was a tight, tight budget
7 to do the addition and everything --

8 MR. SANTINELLO: That's a commercial building,
9 right? You have to put a 30-year shingle on it by law.

10 COMMISSIONER LEONE: They didn't look at it
11 that way back then.

12 **MR. SANTINELLO: Okay.**

13 **CHIEF ANDREWS: I don't know what the code**
14 **called for back then.**

15 **MR. SANTINELLO: That was my point at the**
16 **beginning.**

17 **THE MODERATOR: Any further comments?**

18 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN: I would like to say the**
19 **vast majority of the Board was not here when that was --**
20 **was not on the board when that was done. So it's**
21 **something that we inherited. As painful as it is, we**
22 **still have to address it. That's why we're looking at the**
23 **30-year deal. Should have done that the first time. They**
24 **ran short because a few had champagne taste and a beer**

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1 bottle pocketbook, and that doesn't work.

2 MR. SANTINELLO: Short-sided.

3 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Absolutely.

4 THE MODERATOR: Any further comments or
5 questions? Hearing none, all in favor signify by saying
6 aye.

7 [VOTE TAKEN]

8 THE MODERATOR: Opposed? Hearing none,
9 Resolution R-11 passes. R-12, be it resolved that we the
10 voters of the Albion Fire District assembled here on

11 **October 8, 2013 do hereby authorize and approve a revision**
12 **of the tax payments schedule for the payment of**
13 **residential, commercial, tangible and motor vehicle taxes**
14 **due to the district in accordance herewith, any and all**
15 **bills in excess of \$200 may be paid on a semi-annual basis**
16 **with payment, which payment shall become due and payable**
17 **and to installments on December 31st and May 1st of the**
18 **fiscal year. Any and all bills less than 200 shall be**
19 **paid in full on or before December 31st. The Board of**
20 **Commissioners and/or the Treasurer shall be authorized and**
21 **empowered to establish rules and procedures for collection**
22 **of any said payment in accordance with state law upon**
23 **failure to make any installment due and owing to the**

24 District. All sums owed for taxes shall be immediately

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**1 due and penalties and interest shall accrue in accordance
2 with the laws of the State of Rhode Island and the charter
3 of the Albion Fire District. Motion?**

4 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: Motion.

5 COMMISSIONER REMILLARD: Second.

**6 THE MODERATOR: Any comment, Carl? I know you
7 were quick this time.**

**8 MR. BERNETTI: Before right now what was the
9 due date of that one payment?**

10 **THE MODERATOR:** December 31st.

11 **MR. BERNETTI:** If you go to two, would you move
12 that first date up a little bit so you don't run into your
13 cash crunch that you run into that short period of time?

14 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** I vote against it. I'm
15 not going to tip my hand to tell you where I'm going to go
16 with Resolution R-13. I'm having an issue with this
17 Resolution lying with 12.

18 **MR. BERNETTI:** I'm not asking about the two
19 payments.

20 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** I mean, December 31st --

21 **[INAUDIBLE]**

22 **THE MODERATOR:** Let's have a discussion through

23 the Chair on both sides of the room. Bob?

24 MR. WINGATE: Whether or not this passes or

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1 not, I'd like to see the insertion of one word in this
2 Resolution, and that is to be, "payment shall become due
3 and payable in two equal installments." I've had prior
4 discussions with people on this Board about that before,
5 and even though the payment book says "divides the payment
6 in half," your attorney can vouch for you, you have to get
7 somebody pick this apart if it's passed and paid on a \$300
8 bill pay a buck the first time and 299 the second time

9 around unless it's spelled out.

10 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: You're moving to go
11 amend the Resolution, right?

12 THE MODERATOR: Motion has been made to add the
13 word "equal" before. That's good. There's a motion to
14 vote on that. Do I have a second on that?

15 COMMISSIONER REMILLARD: Yes.

16 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: Second.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We're not voting on the
18 Resolution?

19 THE MODERATOR: No change. Good point of
20 order. Mike Napolitano made the second. Okay. If there
21 are no further comments, I will bring it to a vote. All

22 in favor of -- go ahead.

23 MR. SANTINELLO: I wanted to state something

24 this gentleman said about equal payments, but also I was

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1 hoping that we do it from May 31st so it would be equal
2 time, equal payments.

3 ATTORNEY DeSIMONE: You need to vote first on
4 this.

5 THE MODERATOR: Because that's an amendment,
6 you're changing. So we need to vote on this first. If
7 there's no further comment on this, I'm going to move for

8 a vote. All in favor of the motion as amended,

9 significant by saying aye.

10 [VOTE TAKEN]

11 THE MODERATOR: Opposed?

12 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Nay.

13 ATTORNEY DeSIMONE: The word "equal" carries.

14 Now it's on the floor.

15 MR. SANTINELLO: Mine was the equal payments,

16 equal time, not the first of May.

17 THE MODERATOR: He wants the motion for the

18 31st. May I ask you what your rationale is for that?

19 MR. SANTINELLO: By annual, it was going to be

20 quarterly on two payments which I assumed was --

21 [INAUDIBLE]

22 THE MODERATOR: Semi-annual means twice a year.

23 MR. MARTIN: Should be June.

24 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: He is moving to --

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1 ATTORNEY DeSIMONE: He refers to what?

2 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Mr. Santinello --

3 THE MODERATOR: Would you re-state your

4 proposed amendment which you want to change the date?

5 MR. SANTINELLO: To as this gentleman said, if

6 I want to -- twice a year, equal time.

7 **ATTORNEY DeSIMONE:** It would be easier if you
8 propose a date.

9 **MR. SANTINELLO:** The 31st of June. I mean May.
10 May 31st.

11 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** That's five months, not
12 six months.

13 **ATTORNEY DeSIMONE:** I believe the reason for
14 the May date was because of certain payments that become
15 due in the spring which you would need monies for. There
16 are several truck payments I think that one of those come
17 in --

18 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** One in April, one in May.

19 **[INAUDIBLE]**

20 **ATTORNEY DeSIMONE:** I think the concern is the
21 funds get depleted in April and at the beginning of May
22 because of payments that are scheduled that we don't have
23 control over. I don't know whether the 31st will make a
24 difference or not. I have no way to know.

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1 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** The problem is, like
2 Mr. DeSimone said, both truck payments, mortgage payments,
3 that is the issue. We have tried other ways to try to get
4 around that. They pay off eventually. It can't be done
5 because it's the federal government loan type thing.

6 They're slowly going to be paid up in a couple years.

7 Taking them like that really hamstrung the District,

8 really puts --

9 MR. GAGNON: I don't know what the definition

10 of semi-annual is. Doesn't it have to be --

11 THE MODERATOR: Semi-annual means twice a year.

12 It doesn't designate dates that much. I know, you're

13 right.

14 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: The Tax Collector is

15 not here tonight, and those are the dates that he chose in

16 his rationale with the payments. And that's why they are

17 on the Resolution.

18 MR. BERNETTI: Just a point. Are you also

19 going to have less interest because we collected it all up
20 front? Extra money in the investment accounts so I would
21 be putting any further out because you're going to lose
22 regular income as well.

23 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: He's correct.

24 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: I think we're opening up a

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1 can of worms, and I'm really afraid of that. So far, for
2 the vast majority, we haven't had any problems. If you
3 look at the legal taxpayers, we're pretty good. I believe
4 we finished the year with a 99.4 percent success rate of

5 collecting taxes that were due this year. And all we're
6 doing is giving people opportunities. In the past, I know
7 that we voted on this, a couple of elderly people can't
8 pay my \$374 at one time, can I give you \$5 a week or
9 something, and that's fine. And it's just, to me, that
10 we're opening up a can to let people play with something
11 that I don't want them to play with. If you do this,
12 you're going to hamstring the districts. Everybody seems
13 to pay bills -- I could see if we have a collection ratio
14 of 80 percent, all right, we have a problem. But we're
15 paying. Now we're going to give people an opportunity to
16 pay less. And sometimes, you know as well as I do, twice
17 a year, if they don't get a reminder, you forget about it.

18 I'm not in favor of it. We'll work with anybody, but this

19 I'm just not sold on it.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Mr. Moderator, I guess I

21 need a little clarification on the second half of that.

22 I'm not a lawyer by all means. What that tells me is if

23 no payment has been made by December 31st, interest is due

24 and a full payment is due at that time; is that correct?

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1 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Yes.

2 MR. GAGNON: I also echo what Mike Allen says.

3 I think this is a burden on the district. The Tax

4 **Collector has to take the checks and deposit it twice. He**
5 **agreed not to do this for any more money. I think the**
6 **second notices that are going to be going out is another**
7 **burden on us. According to me, this is not a good thing**
8 **for the District.**

9 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: I hear all the**
10 **sentiments, and when Mr. Santinello came in and brought**
11 **this to your attention, I thought it was a reasonable**
12 **request. I mean, I pay my property taxes to the Town four**
13 **times a year, and my fire tax bill has gone up**
14 **substantially from what it was when I first moved in here**
15 **25 years ago. I thought it was unreasonable to do it four**
16 **times a year because it would strap us. I thought twice**

17 made sense. I can understand people struggle. I got to
18 tell you, when my fire bill comes in, I'm struggling at
19 that time. When it comes in once a year, I have to move
20 everything around to pay it because it's high. So I
21 certainly can understand people feeling that way. I
22 thought it was a reasonable request so I'm supporting it.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can we vote on the
24 motion?

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1 ATTORNEY DeSIMONE: Do we have a motion on the
2 floor for May 31st?

3 **THE MODERATOR:** We have to have a motion for
4 the May 31st day.

5 **MR. MARTIN:** Resolution 4 gives you the right
6 to do [INAUDIBLE]

7 **THE MODERATOR:** Fourth quarter. Yes, sir?

8 **MR. LONG:** Louis Long, 236 Old River Road,
9 Lincoln. I was just asking about Mr. Napolitano. You had
10 said something about, were you in favor of the May 1st?

11 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO:** No. The overall
12 Resolution, I would like to see the date remain the same
13 because the Tax Collector shows those unable to be here
14 tonight.

15 **THE MODERATOR:** For clarification, you mean

16 December 31st --

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I was confused. The

18 31st is --

19 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: We had that in mind

20 when we put this Resolution together and designated for

21 him to come and say what did you do, you moved it to the

22 end of the month, now we're going to be all screwed up.

23 THE MODERATOR: We thought he would be here

24 tonight.

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm in agreement now.

2 Thank you. Can we take a vote now?

3 MR. SANTINELLO: Can I say something? As

4 Mr. Gagnon said, you're in the prime of your career. You

5 have people in this town that are not. They're hurting.

6 Myself, personally, I did not come to these people and

7 talk about this. It's elderly people in my town and

8 younger people struggle with a mortgage. Me and you are

9 probably in the same position. We were lucky when we

10 bought our property. Other people are not. I think that

11 we should pass this. And with Christmas, people stretch

12 themselves on visas and other things in our society today,

13 and we need to help. A hundred dollars is a lot of money

14 at Christmas. Thank you.

15 **MR. GAGNON:** Rebuttal. I feel it's a known
16 expense. You can budget this for your whole year. Put
17 five dollars a week away for it a year and make sure you
18 have it on December 31st.

19 **THE MODERATOR:** Okay. I made an exception by
20 letting you speak three times on the issue.

21 **COMMISSIONER ALLEN:** I make a motion we move
22 the question now.

23 **THE MODERATOR:** No one seconded it. We'll move
24 on.

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1 **ATTORNEY DeSIMONE:** We have to vote on the
2 date, the May 31st change. The amendment, you're voting
3 on the amendment from May 1st to May 31st.

4 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO:** A "no" vote keeps the
5 date the same.

6 **THE MODERATOR:** All in favor signify by saying
7 aye.

8 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

9 **THE MODERATOR:** Opposed?

10 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** Nay.

11 **THE MODERATOR:** The Chair -- now a vote on the
12 regular Resolution.

13 **ATTORNEY DeSIMONE:** Motion to amend the date

14 from May 1st to 31st did not pass. Now you need a motion
15 on the Resolution itself.

16 THE MODERATOR: We will go back now to R-12 as
17 read. Motion?

18 COMMISSIONER ADAMSKI: So moved.

19 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: Motion made and
20 seconded.

21 THE COURT: Any further questions? Hearing
22 none -- go ahead.

23 MR. MONTEG: Roland Monteg. So we're going to
24 vote on the Resolution --

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1 **THE MODERATOR:** The way it's written over here,
2 with one word added, "equal." That's the only change.
3 That's a good point of order. Any further discussion?
4 Hearing none, all in favor, signify by saying aye.

5 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

6 **THE MODERATOR:** Opposed?

7 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

8 **THE MODERATOR:** I'm going to ask for a standing
9 vote. All in favor of this Resolution, would you please
10 stand.

11 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

12 **THE MODERATOR:** 16. Please be seated.

13 **Opposed, please stand.**

14 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

15 **THE MODERATOR: Obviously the 16 carries the**
16 **resolution. Resolution 13, be it resolved that we the**
17 **voters of the Albion Fire District assembled here on**
18 **October 8, 2013 do hereby authorize and approve that the**
19 **procurement and execution of a tax anticipation note on**
20 **behalf of the District in the sum of \$50,000. The Board**
21 **of Commissioners and/or the Treasurer shall be authorized**
22 **and empowered to execute any and all documents associated**
23 **with the application and processing of said note. The**
24 **proceeds from any note procured in conjunction with this**

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1 Resolution shall be used only upon depletion of the
2 surplus funds held by the Albion Fire District as
3 determined by the Treasurer and the Board of
4 Commissioners.

5 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: So moved.

6 COMMISSIONER REMILLARD: Second.

7 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Discussion?

8 MR. ALLEN: Michael Allen, 12 Shady Brook

9 Circle. What we're looking at right here, in my opinion,
10 that's a \$50,000 charge. Even if we don't use it, it is
11 still a liability. Now, my rationale is kind of simple,

12 and some of the people in the District have come and said
13 the same thing. Number one, are we having a problem
14 collecting our taxes? No. Do we have a comfortable
15 budget in place? Yes. Are we going into uncharted
16 territory? In my opinion, we are. I don't want a \$50,000
17 charge. Somebody said, well, in case we have to buy
18 something serious. Listen, \$50,000 may buy you one fifth
19 of a fire truck. \$50,000 may buy you half a guy. But
20 \$50,000, even if we don't use it, it's still a \$50,000
21 liability on us. Because the banks said even if you don't
22 use it, you're still on the hook for it. As far as I'm
23 concerned, I don't think we should get into something like
24 this. We're not having a problem. And all we're doing is

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1 giving an opportunity to create a problem. I don't think

2 it's a good idea. I was totally out-voted on this.

3 That's just my opinion.

4 THE MODERATOR: All set. Mr. Napolitano?

5 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: This is a line of

6 credit. And the reason why it was proposed is because

7 we're going to go with two payments instead of one, should

8 we be put in a situation. We don't anticipate there being

9 a situation. This is like an insurance policy. You don't

10 go out and take out the \$50,000 unless all your funds are

11 depleted, including the surplus funds. Then you have a
12 line of credit with the bank. It's like a home equity
13 loan. You have a line of credit. If you need to borrow
14 money until the tax revenue comes in, you borrow the money
15 from the bank and pay it back when the tax revenue comes
16 in. It's solely for that purpose. We don't take the
17 money unless we run out of funds to pay our bills and all
18 of our surplus bills. It's an emergency fund. We have no
19 plan on taking the \$50,000 and spending it on anything. I
20 would like an opinion from our accountant. From what I
21 see, this is pretty much done everywhere.

22 MR. CIVETTI: You're correct. Most cities and
23 towns have taken it out on an annual basis to help with

24 the cash flow purposes. I think as long as your

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1 Resolution is referring to that 50,000, it would be used
2 to pay portions of your budget which was approved this
3 evening, then you're correct. If you're saying that
4 50,000 could be accessed for -- like if all of a sudden
5 somebody wants to purchase a certain item, then that's
6 violating what the normal purpose would be.

7 THE MODERATOR: Carl?

8 MR. BERNETTI: Along those lines, shouldn't --
9 if this is the sum of it, 50,000, instead of saying if you

10 think 10,000 you are going to get 50, that's the way this
11 reads right now.

12 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: It's a line. So in other
13 words, we can take as much, up to \$50,000. If we don't
14 need the 50,000, we don't have to take anything. If we
15 only need ten, we take ten.

16 MR. BERNETTI: This is not the way it's
17 described. This is up to \$50,000.

18 THE MODERATOR: I'll hear one more comment.

19 MR. GAGNON: I'm assuming that we're going to
20 go to a financial institution and tell them that we want
21 \$50,000 at our reach at any time; is that correct?

22 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: Yes. I made a call.

23 **TREASURER NEVES: Yes. Preparation has been**
24 **approved. I called.**

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1 **MR. GAGNON: \$50,000 at what interest rate?**

2 **Does anybody know?**

3 **TREASURER NEVES: I haven't gotten to that**
4 **point yet.**

5 **MR. GAGNON: I wouldn't want to go take \$50,000**
6 **and pay 11 percent interest.**

7 **CHIEF ANDREWS: May I ask a question? I want**
8 **to ask Rob Civetti. They don't have to take it out unless**

9 you need it, correct?

10 MR. CIVETTI: That's correct.

11 CHIEF ANDREWS: So you don't have to worry

12 about paying interest on anything unless you take it out.

13 Does that answer your question? When I was in sales, we

14 did this for many years just to make sure that, for

15 instance, the way the meeting was to get the taxes

16 through. If we had like a three or four-month period,

17 they would take up to, like Carl said, up to \$50,000.

18 They may only need ten. And I think they went to the

19 credit union and the Town at that point when they needed

20 it. They didn't take out a line of credit so they got

21 50,000 sitting there on a home equity loan. Because then

22 **you're paying a percentage on it.**

23 **MR. GAGNON: Is there a cost to the District to**

24 **apply for this?**

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1 **TREASURER NEVES: Not that I am aware of.**

2 **CHIEF ANDREWS: It's a cost --**

3 **MR. GAGNON: Application fee. Another question**

4 **to the Chair, could this actually be done in the three-way**

5 **process or a special meeting?**

6 **THE MODERATOR: Could be the Board of**

7 **Commissioners.**

8 **MR. GAGNON:** It does call for a special meeting

9 and do the same thing, am I correct?

10 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO:** Two points. One,

11 yes. I probably could have a special meeting. Then we

12 have to spend how many thousands of dollars advertising

13 and sending post cards. We're out of money. So you have

14 a problem there. He asked a good question, and I already

15 know the answer to this, but I'd like to hear. What is

16 the average interest on this type of a --

17 **MR. CIVETTI:** Based on the community, what

18 we've been seeing with the local cities and towns,

19 anywhere ranging from four percent to six percent. High

20 threes.

21 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: Okay.

22 COMMISSIONER REMILLARD: My understanding is

23 they have this type of structure, and you really want to

24 apply for that when you're financially healthy, not if

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1 you're financially sick, to get approved. This is

2 insurance. Keep your cash flow going.

3 MR. CIVETTI: In most instances when the banks

4 or financial institutions are going to get the money from,

5 they know your tax installment and they can see the tax

6 bills that went out. As it says, it's a tax anticipation

7 that you're looking at. The bank has that security that
8 you're going to have collection of taxes. It is a normal
9 feature to most municipalities, districts. You know, it's
10 a little different than if you try to get a mortgage.

11 **MR. GAGNON:** Mr. Moderator, one more time.

12 With \$200 in surplus, do we really need another 50,000?

13 **THE MODERATOR:** Commissioner Napolitano?

14 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO:** I'll explain again.

15 We're not borrowing 50,000. We're not going to take

16 possession of 50,000. It is there if we need to take

17 possession only if something happens. It's an insurance

18 policy, just like you have insurance on your house for a

19 fire. It's an insurance policy. Given that we're going

20 into unchartered waters with having two collection periods
21 instead of one, it just made sense to do it since every
22 other town and every other business and even the college I
23 work at has it. It just made sense.

24 MR. CIVETTI: I think your Resolution says that

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1 on depletion of surplus funds --

2 MR. MARTIN: Another question is, is this going
3 to be applied on a yearly basis, this year's budget?

4 ATTORNEY DeSIMONE: This particular Resolution
5 applies to this budget yearly. My opinion is that you

6 would need it again next year. Any tax appropriation note
7 that it's going to be done next year, your annual meeting
8 is currently in the budgetary for this particular year.

9 This wouldn't be something that holds over. If that's
10 what the question is, it would not.

11 THE MODERATOR: Every year we have to deal with
12 all these Resolutions over and over again.

13 MR. MARTIN: You can hold on to it and not
14 spend it.

15 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: My hope is we have a
16 great year and we don't have to. We got to look at a year
17 doing this for the first time and say it went great, we
18 didn't need it, we won't need it next year.

19 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can we move to vote?**

20 **THE MODERATOR: I will. Motion to move the**

21 **vote. That doesn't require a second. It requires action.**

22 **So all in favor of the Resolution as stated, signify by**

23 **saying aye.**

24 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

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1 **THE MODERATOR: Opposed?**

2 **[VOTE TAKEN]**

3 **THE MODERATOR: I think I can make the decision**

4 **the ayes have it. So moved. Anybody have any dispute?**

5 I'll be glad to have people stand up again. Okay. I'm
6 going to call for a five-minute recess. The stenographer
7 and others need a five-minute break. Five minutes,
8 please.

9 [OFF THE RECORD]

10 ATTORNEY DeSIMONE: I think at this point we'll
11 go back to the proposed budget section. On the revenue
12 section of the budget, just to make it clear for
13 everybody, we approved the Resolution. You're going to
14 add -- you're going to use all these numbers, but then
15 this bottom line number, the total revenue number, has to
16 change. You're going to be short -- [INAUDIBLE]

17 THE MODERATOR: Going to propose revenue for

18 2013, 2014 based on residential tax at 150, 175 tangible
19 three dollars, that's \$987,530. The motor vehicle is 110.
20 That comes up to the proposed revenue interest that is
21 \$41,629. Plan and review income is \$4,000. Fire alarm
22 income is \$5,600. Incident or accident billing is \$4,532.
23 Income from delinquent taxes total revenues is -- that's
24 where -- the revenue is still there. \$1,043,291.

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1 **MR. BERNETTI: What happened to that?**

2 **CHIEF ANDREWS: Delinquent taxes is showing**

3 **what we used last year.**

4 **MR. BERNETTI:** You didn't get any --

5 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** No. We used that to offset the
6 budget increasing the tax rate last year. That's why that
7 was there.

8 **MR. BERNETTI:** Did you have any interest
9 income?

10 **THE MODERATOR:** Carl again?

11 **MR. BERNETTI:** Was there any -- you don't
12 budget for any interest income on the investments?

13 **COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO:** Right now
14 approximately one and a half, two percent. I mean --

15 **TREASURER NEVES:** It's basically an account
16 with Navigant. You're not tying up the money.

17 **MR. BERNETTI:** What I'm saying, show revenue
18 **source.**

19 **CHIEF ANDREWS:** No. Carl was asking if we put
20 **that in the budget. No.**

21 **MR. BERNETTI:** It should show up as a revenue
22 **source if you're getting interest on investment or**
23 **something like that. It's late.**

24 **TREASURER NEVES:** Right now one to one and a

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1 **half.**

2 **THE MODERATOR:** Motion to accept, is there a

3 motion?

4 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: Motion.

5 COMMISSIONER LEONE: You have to show the
6 increase.

7 ATTORNEY DeSIMONE: You do, except that \$156
8 would have to be taken from surplus.

9 THE MODERATOR: That's what we were discussing.
10 It did change.

11 CHIEF ANDREWS: I know that.

12 ATTORNEY DeSIMONE: \$156.

13 THE MODERATOR: The new amount is \$1,043,447
14 versus what I just read, 43,291. It's only a hundred and
15 something dollars, 156. I asked that before, Chief. Any

16 further questions or comments? Hearing none, all in
17 favor, signify by saying aye.

18 [VOTE TAKEN]

19 THE MODERATOR: Opposed? Hearing none, passes.

20 Now, real quick, any Unfinished Business?

21 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: No.

22 THE MODERATOR: Good and welfare?

23 MR. GAGNON: Mr. Chairman, it's been three

24 meetings in a row that I've come at 7:00 and we haven't

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1 met the quorum. Is there something that defines how long

2 we wait and how we recruit people and how we get the
3 quorum? I mean, I'm curious to know.

4 COMMISSIONER NAPOLITANO: It's a good point.

5 Not only did we send a postcard to everybody this year,
6 but we put out a press release to tell the taxpayers and
7 it was published in the Valley Breeze that we were going
8 to have a discussion and vote on changing the tax payment
9 structure from once a year to twice a year. It was in the
10 Valley Breeze two weeks ago. So between the postcard, all
11 the advertising, we took out ads in the Valley Breeze, the
12 Pawtucket Times and the Neighbors Newspaper, we are doing
13 all we can to get the word out. The press release was in
14 addition to all that. We didn't do that last year. We

15 expected to have a lot more people.

16 MR. GAGNON: My question would be, if it's

17 quarter past and we've only got 20 and we have to recruit.

18 Where is the limit where you tell your --

19 THE MODERATOR: I'll answer that as the

20 Moderator. In my head, I thought 20 minutes was a

21 reasonable amount. Actually, by my clock and we may have

22 a two-minute difference, by my clock and I kept you

23 informed right along, this is the first time it's happened

24 to me in all the years I've done this, 18 minutes. I had

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1 in my head 20 minutes and then we were going to have to
2 move one way or another. I think that's reasonable given
3 that we have trouble even with regular meetings, the
4 attendance.

5 MR. BERNETTI: Just a department. We have the
6 same problem with the town all the time. We sit up there
7 waiting to know that we have a quorum, so we do the
8 advertising you want. Create a controversy.

9 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: A raffle maybe.

10 MR. GAGNON: Change the bylaws and bring it
11 down 20 instead of 25.

12 ATTORNEY DeSIMONE: Could you?

13 THE MODERATOR: That could be done. The thing

14 is, when you step as a citizen of the district, we average
15 about one or two nonmembers at each meeting and, you know,
16 people need to come out more often. You know, I mean,
17 this is great that we got this. My biggest concern coming
18 here tonight was reaching a quorum. I wasn't disappointed
19 when I came here. There was far less than 25 at the time.
20 Three in fact, two or three people. There's nothing in
21 any rule or regulation that I know of that states a
22 specific time of how much you wait, how long you wait, but
23 I explained to you mine was 20 minutes, and then I was
24 going to bring it to discussion. If the rest of the

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1 people wanted to say no, let's wait another ten minutes, I
2 would have gone with that. If they said another hour, I
3 would have said no.

4 MR. GAGNON: I didn't know if there was
5 anything in writing.

6 COMMISSIONER ALLEN: One thing. Thank you all
7 for coming. Evidently we might be doing something right.
8 Because when we were doing something wrong, the meeting
9 was thousands of people. The other thing is, right now I
10 would like to make a motion that we suspend discussion and
11 entertain a motion to adjourn.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second that motion.

13 THE MODERATOR: All in favor?

14 [VOTE TAKEN]

15 THE MODERATOR: Meeting adjourned.

16 [ADJOURNED AT 9:30 P.M.]

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1 C E R T I F I C A T E

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3 I, Lisa M. Reis, hereby certify that the foregoing is a
4 true and accurate transcript of the Annual Meeting of the
5 Albion Fire District, Michael Allen, Chairman, heard on
6 October 8, 2013.

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Lisa M. Reis, RPR

Notary Public, State of Rhode Island

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